



## **FINAL MINUTES**

Regular Board Meeting **\*\*7 PM\*\*** June 19th, 2017  
Madison Valley Public Library Community Room

1. **Call meeting to order:** Mel called the meeting to order at 6:54 pm.
2. **Supervisors Present:** Mel McKittrick, Janet Endecott, Bob Sitz, Kaye Suzuki, Neil Kent, Colten Clark, Nick Dyk, Jessie Wiese
3. **Staff:** Sunni Heikes-Knapton, Ethan Kunard, Cori Koenig, Madeline Pruzsenski
4. **Others:** Dan Durham, NRCS, Buddy Drake, FWP, Jeff Dunn, Respec
5. **Review minutes from previous meeting:** There were several grammatical changes. Janet moves, Colten 2nds.
6. **Financial:** Cori read financial report & review recent bills. Janet moves to approve as read. Kaye seconds.
7. **Public Comment:** see minutes from Public Meeting regarding Proposed Mill Levy
8. **Respec Consulting Lower Jack Creek:** Jeff Dunn presented on what they've accomplished, the site assessment, design considerations, and what they've seen on the ground so far. He explained what they assessed and how they came to determining priority areas of the stream. The priorities are : two larger downstream erosions, micro-meander for spawning habitat. The upstream ground came out as a lower priority. He reported on the landowner meeting, a FWP representative attended. Final design to be done by July 31 with cost of construction. That will set us up with a firm idea of the amount of money we have versus what we can accomplish and proceed with raising funds from there. The bid for construction will go out in January.
9. **Business:**
  - a. **#17-10 Tom Reed:** Mel visited the site today. He wants to construct a bridge on North Willow Creek. The bridge will not be in the creek, it will reach from bank to bank and will cause no disturbance of bank or creek. He will need to cross ford with equipment. Mel did this one by himself. Janet moves to approve permit #17-10 as proposed. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion passes. The permit will expire December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
  - b. **#17-11 MDM Construction:** Mel and Buddy visited. Buddy reported. MDM would like to put in a culvert and driveway to access a new home site on Deadman Creek. Modifications include: Place a squashed culvert 20' long in creek. Bury the pipe 6" into the bed, place a bio-log or silt fence to prevent fill from moving into the creek. Seed the disturbed area. Fifteen days waived. Nick moves to approve permit 17-11 as modified. Bob seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
  - c. **#15-20 Rice pond update:** Buddy Drake fisheries consultant presented, he visited the site with Mel. He has some issues with it. The headgate was supposed to be different. Not sure if it's worth having them change it because it's there are no fish in that segment of the stream. The size of the water being impounded and the berm is not the issue. The issue is the work done on the headgate itself. The water rights issue is not our jurisdiction but he should have had a permit. Buddy does not see anything blatantly bad about berm and the riparian area. The DNRC does not look at potential dam failures until it's greater than 7 acres. They would be concerned with the impoundments and the water rights. The greatest concern was his emergency work on removing

debris and the headgate. Feels he should have submitted an emergency 310 there. He should have done so within 30 days. Recommendations include: need the banks back to original height, sloped properly, the raw slope pulled back to better angle of repose, seed and cover with jute netting. So much clay, he'll need to add top soil once he pulls banks back. The other side needs to be re-sloped at proper bank height. The weed issue needs to be addressed. Large amount of henbane. Stream corridor, pumps off active channel. Needs to deal with those with re-seed and mulch? Jute netting and planting will help. The CD will draft a letter together stating that he needs to submit an emergency 310, should have been done within 30 days of the work, therefore it needs to be submitted within the week of the letter being sent out. After he submits, the CD gets to tell him how to fix it. This is what needs to be done, and here's the route. Kaye questioned what happens if he doesn't. Buddy stated that you can fine \$500/day (up to \$7,000) so that it stays in local court. Buddy will visit again with Mel and Dave.

- d. **Nye violation letter:** everyone received a copy of letter with their packets. There is a pig pen on the stream that drains into North Meadow Creek.
- e. **Monthly time spent on 310's:** Mel estimates 15 hours spent this month.

#### 10. Old Business and Reports:

- a. **FY Budget Planning:** a group met several weeks ago and went over the budget. All supervisors received a copy in the mail. Janet moves to approve the budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. Colten seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
- b. **Board Leadership:** We'll be looking for a new supervisor. Rita Owens, George Boyd, Katie Roberts are all possibilities. Mel discussed trying to get the supervisor spot filled within 60 days if possible.
- c. **Permissive Mill Levy:** Mel presented. Last month the board voted to place the permissive levy on the June agenda and hold a public meeting. Janet moves that we do not use a permissive mill levy as a way to get funds after the input from the community. Neil seconds. Five in favor, two opposed. Kaye mentioned that she's done some job searching and we are sadly behind other entities. She would hate to lose staff to a job that offers better benefits. Kaye would like clarification on whether or not there is in fact a pot of money at the county and the statute outlines how it can be used. Kaye and Cori will sit down with the commissioners and Vickie Tilstra and get a better understanding of the funding.
- d. Kaye moves to increase by \$100/month toward Ethan's health insurance costs from July 1 2017 to January 1, 2018 to be re-visited January 2018. Colten seconds. All in favor and motion passes.

#### 11. New Business: 9:00

- a. **223 Grant Agreement Lower Jack Creek:** we must get a signature and get it turned around asap. Nick moves to accept the 223 Grant and any supervisor can sign to accept. Bob seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
- b. **MCD January Potluck:** Potluck in lieu of holiday party. In honor of Janet's service and the holidays.
- c. **310 Webinar**
  - <http://mediaserver.dnrc.mt.gov/2017-05-31-310-basics.mp4> : link to 310 law and authority the board has. Would be very informative for the board to spend time on.
- d. **310 Work Completion Form:** board reviewed the form and found it useful. Nick suggested putting a timeline on it. Return 30 days within completion of the project. Cori will include this in future 310 letters going out.
- e. **Ethan Work Schedule:** Ethan would like to move to Bozeman and work from home several days/week. No objections from the board.

12. **Correspondence:** Thanks to Janet for her service over the years.

13. **NRCS Report :** Dan was here to report. He is busy with projects. Lyons: moving forward. Slated to start in July, should take a month. He invited everyone to stop by and see the work in progress. Thanks to Sunni for helping secure funding and coordinating.

**14. Solar Technology:** replaced an old solar pump system, costs less than half of 20 years ago. Technology has come far and gotten less expensive. The technology could be used on stock water applications, grazing applications, planting applications.

**15. Conifer projects:**

Dan is looking at sagebrush systems, rangeland systems and how to potentially store more water in tributaries and seasonal streams. Looking for ways to expand and restore mesic systems. NRCS has invited Bill Zeedyke to consult. He's from NM has designed a system to stop head cutting, uses on site materials.

Administration is re-organizing agencies. NRCS lumped in with other agencies that are subsidy based. Dan feels it has the potential to diminish natural resource conservation.

**16. Supervisors Report:** none

**17. Staff/Project Report**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.**

**June 19th, 2017:**

**Ethan Kunard – Water Programs**

**Madison Stream Team** – The annual training is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>. We have secured \$12,000 from the Madison River Foundation via a grant from Patagonia, and are waiting to hear from the Big Sky Resort Tax on \$4,000 for the monitoring on Jack Creek. We have already begun measuring flow on Jack Creek, South Meadow Creek, North Meadow Creek, and Moore Creek, and will begin water quality monitoring in July.

**Madison Watershed Planning** - We had our final planning meeting for the season on May 31<sup>st</sup>. This meeting focused on example strategies that might be utilized throughout this watershed improvement process to improve water quality and mitigate drought (\*see attached handout with more information). We will now be working to finish the watershed characterization report by mid-summer, and will then meet with a smaller stakeholder group to discuss more particular priorities. Additionally, we have recently received draft TMDLs for nutrients, E. coli, and metals. DEQ expects to have completed TMDLs by the end of the summer. Consequently, the DEQ has extended the timeline for our draft Watershed Restoration Plan contract through June 30, 2018.

**Planning Board**

**Lower Golf Course (Yellowstone Club).** This proposal modifies a previous application. It would create 1 condominium lot of 9.93 acres with 21 condominium units in 7 triplexes, 20 single family lots between 0.66 and 3.63 acres, and 1 open space lot of 32.50 acres. Located west of the YMC golf course and West Golf Course Road.

**Moonlight Basin Overall Development Plan Update:** This update will maintain the 1,651 units approved in 2007. Three main differences are: 1) Leaving the upper gate in place instead of moving it as required by the Strawberry Ridge Subdivision; 2) Moving some of the units into the "Moonlight Territory" formerly designated as "ranches"; and 3) Instead of all units being equal (single family, hotel, condo, etc.), allow a density bonus for hotel units. Other topics covered included employee housing, governance, a resource management plan, water and sewer upgrades, building codes, design guidelines, structural fire protection, using effluent for irrigation, a modified garbage site, and uses of open space. They expect to present a draft ODP in July.

**Growth Policy Update** – The planning board will be reviewing and updating the current Madison County Growth Policy starting in July.

**River House Ranch Compliance** - Compliance for the road improvements, removing the foundation from the setback/boat launch easement, and removing the gate at the entrance have been discussed with the County Attorney's office. The Montana Land Reliance is also working on compliance with the conservation easement.

## **Sunni Heikes-Knapton: Watershed Coordinator**

**Lower Jack Creek:** The project has been granted an additional \$18k for the work. We should be receiving the DNRC contract to Cori's email by June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will need a supervisor signature on it and return it to DNRC within a couple days. It will provide more funding for design and construction.

**Moore's Creek Lyons:** A tentative mid-July construction is planned. I will be handling all the reports from when I am gone, but we will need to anticipate invoices for the contractor's work that will need payment.

**GROWW Coordinator:** Good Thymes camp is June 12-16, and the July and August sessions are full. Madeline will be attending the GROWW meetings while I am gone.

**Conservation Film Fest:** Jessie, Sunni, Rebecca and Jon met on June 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the planning for this event.

**District Development Grant:** We have submitted the 3<sup>rd</sup> report for this grant, and we will need to submit a fourth (potentially 5<sup>th</sup> if we don't spend all the money) and a final. The fourth and fifth will be payment for Cori's time to help with project management and Watershed/Drought planning efforts.

**Natural Resource News:** This continues to be an effort shared by the Madison and Ruby Valley CD. If you have suggestions for topics, or you see valuable natural resource articles, please let us know so we can get this information out.

## **Madeline Pruzenski: BSWC**

**BSWC:** I attended a week long Technical Skills Training in Bozeman last month. There we learned a variety of skills from how to teach about water monitoring to computer skills. I have also been able to help RVCD with multiple conifer removal projects.

**Madison Stream Team:** We have been able to set out TruTracks to start monitoring at most sites. We have already been able to start testing turbidity, and plan to continue frequently testing each site. I have been working to finalize sampling sites along with sampling parameters at each site. We have recruited some volunteers, along with many returning volunteers who will be joining the training at Jack Creek Preserve June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**GROWW Program:** I was able to help out with Good Thymes Camp last week, which was a success. I will be the MCD contact with the GROWW Program while Sunni is gone.

## **Cori Koenig: Administrator:**

I've been working on various administrative tasks.

**Office tasks:** I've been working with Sunni to learn how to take care of some of the daily, weekly, and monthly tasks in her absence. I'll be gone the week prior to each of our summer meetings at Good Thymes Camp.

**Quickbooks:** Janet has continued training me on the processes and daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly tasks.

---

Cori Koenig, Administrator

---

Mel McKittrick, Co-Chair